

108120

EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY/MISSION

The Division adopts the following statements of educational philosophy:

OUR PURPOSE

St. James-Assiniboia School Division exists to provide meaningful educational opportunities for our community.

OUR MISSION

St. James-Assiniboia School Division is a leading and innovative learning community that will enable students to success as life-long learners in an ever-changing world.

OUR VISION

St. James-Assiniboia School Division will aim to provide a meaningful, inclusive, and caring educational environment so that students are prepared to be responsible citizens in a democratic society.

FOCUS AREAS AND PRIORITIES

St. James-Assiniboia School Division holds five focus areas and priorities on which every action in the Division will be based: Success for Each Learner, Ma Mawi Anokiitaw Miinawaa (We Will Work Together Again), Mental Health and Wellbeing, Supporting and Celebrating our Students, and Family and Community Connections.

Success for Each Learner

We recognize the importance of each child and their own unique learning needs. Programming and opportunities need to be engaging and relevant to the student. Success is a broad term, and it means different things to different students. At the end of their education journey, we want students to have a sense of dignity, courage, and capability in addition to feeling that they have the skills and abilities to lead them to a future of possibilities. We believe that a strong foundation in literacy and numeracy is critical for future success.

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Ma Mawi Anokiitaw Miinawaa / We Will Work Together Again

We believe in creating safe and inclusive environments that are not only representative of Indigenous cultures, languages, and histories, but also demonstrate the commitment to Truth and Reconciliation. It is a priority to build partnerships that recognize the importance of Elders, Knowledge Keepers, and other Indigenous peoples playing a prominent role in the teachings that we bring to schools.

Mental Health and Wellbeing

There is a growing need to support the mental health and well-being of all students and staff. The first step in this journey is reaffirming the necessity that our schools are inclusive, represent the diversity of our community, and continuously model a culture of care. Our programming includes intentional strategies to promote strong personal mental and physical health to build resilience. Throughout these priorities, there is a constant thread of connections, partnerships, and a focus on relationships which will strengthen our sense of well-being as a healthy community.

Supporting and Celebrating our Students

Our schools are welcoming, caring, and safe for all children, staff, and families. Students are supported and their successes are continuously celebrated.

Opportunities allow for students to explore their own individual areas of passion and interest to promote engagement and learning. Our Division is comprised of staff and students from diverse communities and we are committed to honouring and celebrating all of our diversity, visible or invisible.

Family and Community Connections

Effective communication is essential in supporting and connecting students and families to schools. Communication references a series of ongoing and connected interactions throughout a student's school year and their educational journey.

Parents and caregivers actively participate and feel involved in school experiences with their children. Community partners create a network of support that enriches the learning for all children.

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OUR BELIEFS

The actions and activities of the Board are guided by core values and beliefs identified in consultation with the St. James-Assiniboia community. Local values and beliefs provide the foundation for Board policy.

The actions and activities of the St. James-Assiniboia School Division are guided by the following core beliefs.

We believe that:

1. Every child has the right to a public education and can learn if provided with support and encouragement.
2. A safe and caring environment is necessary for successful learning.
3. Decisions shall be evidence-based and should be made in the best interest of our students.
4. Our employees and their professional development are critical to the success of the Division
5. Education should be delivered in a fiscally responsible manner.
6. Parent/guardian engagement in a child's education contributes to the success of our students.
7. Schools are an integral community partner.
8. Strategic planning is fundamental to good governance and is necessary to achieve our Vision and Mission. It supports accountability, transparency, and public confidence.

APPROVED 18/Dec/84

REVISED 12/Jun/07

REVISED 13/Oct/20

Motion 12-16-07

Motion 17-17-20

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